



2D Photography with the Matterport Pro2 3D Camera

Summary

2D Snapshots are a great way to get ***even more*** out of your Matterport Spaces. With the **Matterport Pro2 3D Camera** that can capture in 4K, they are an even better option for your printed marketing materials such as booklets, direct mailings, and flyers.

This guide provides quick tips for those who want **high-quality 2D Snapshots** from their Matterport Spaces. While these guidelines can't replace the experience and creativity of a true photographer, they can bring you up to speed.

These are only general guidelines. Use your best judgment for each specific case.

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Scanning Technique

Option A: Scan for 2D & 3D in One Pass

One option is to scan for both 3D quality (the virtual tour) and 2D Snapshots (your printed materials) in one pass. This can save you time while on-site.

If you choose to go this route, then **set your tripod to be 4 feet (1.2 m) tall**. Then keep the tripod at the same height the entire time.

Option B: Scan for 3D First, then 2D Snapshots

For the best possible 3D virtual tour and 2D Snapshots, **scan the property as you normally would for 3D quality first**. Adjust the tripod to be about 5 ft (1.5 m). When you mount the camera, the camera lenses will be at approximately eye level (5.5 ft or 1.7 m).

[Learn our best practices](#) to get the best possible 3D Space.

If you're new to Matterport, [read a 10 step walkthrough](#) on how to scan your first model.

Then, after scanning for 3D quality, **go back and scan again** for 2D Snapshots.

Set the tripod to be **3.5 ft (1 m) tall**. When you mount the camera, the camera lenses will be around 4 ft (1.2 m) off the ground. The lower height typically gives better quality photos.

If you don't have measuring tape available, then use the countertops to estimate. Most countertops are 3 ft (0.9 m) tall, so set the camera to **about 1 foot (30 cm) higher**.

For kitchens with high countertops, raise the camera higher so the lenses are roughly 1 inch above the height of the countertop.

For rooms with low profile furniture, lower the camera even more than 4 ft (1.25 m).

To minimize the amount of distortion in your snapshot, always keep the camera *approximately level* while you are on-site capturing. Processing in the cloud will level it even more.

Choose Good Scan Positions

Good positions for 2D photography are different than good positions for a virtual tour.

General Guidelines

Place the camera in corners and in doorways so it can open up to the area of interest. This is so the camera can get more of the space in a narrow field of view.

Avoid direct sunlight on the camera so it doesn't wash out the photos.

Be careful around mirrors. Place the tripod to avoid capturing your own reflection, the camera's reflection, or other things you don't want in the shot. Preview the scan immediately after you capture.

For outdoor shots, the yard, house, and sky should each take **about 1/3 of the image**. For indoor shots, the floor, wall, and ceiling should each take **about 1/3 of the image**.

Use a level tool to **keep the camera as level as possible**.

Front Exterior

Front Corner (Curb View)



Driveway or Approach



Since you will be outside, **switch to 360° View mode** before you capture.

When possible, try to **place the camera in shade** so bright light doesn't wash out the photos.

Position the camera at least 20 ft (6 m) from the structure, and make sure the view is clear and unobstructed.

Adjust the camera height so the center of the lenses point at the center of the house.

Living Room

Sitting Area (Wide View)



Three Walls with Seating



Scan from **at least two corners** of the room, and all four if possible.

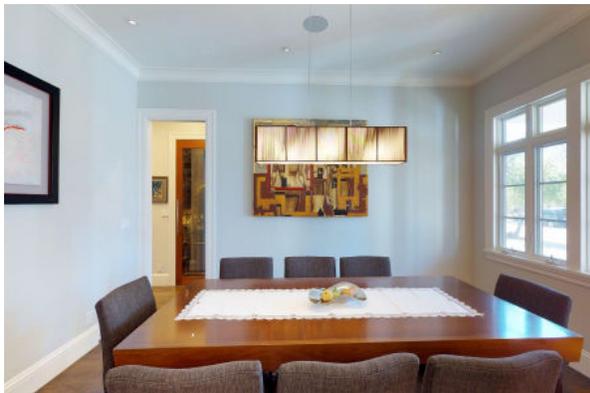
Imagine every seat has a person sitting in it. Capture as much of their face as possible.

Capture three walls if possible, since this shows the depth of the space.

Turn off the television, since it can be distracting to the viewer.

Dining Room

Dining Table in Center



Corner of Dining Table



The dining table is an important feature.

Take one scan **centered on the dining table**, with three walls visible.

Take scan **from the corner of the table** that gives the best composition.

Kitchen

Appliances & Feature	Eating Area, Wide View

Kitchens are common meeting places for the family and are key selling points in real estate. **Take a little extra time in the kitchen** and capture an extra scan or two.

Show the perspective of **both the resident and the guest** (the cook and the diner).

Make sure to **capture shots with all the appliances** (sink, stove, refrigerator, microwave, counter, etc) as well as the **seating areas**. Imagine the camera is a guest, and then place the camera where a guest would likely stand.

Bedrooms

Left Foot of Bed



Right Foot of Bed



It's important to show the relationship between the bed and the rest of the room.

Take two shots, one **pointing at each corner of the bed**.

- One of the shots should **focus on the windows** and the relationship to the exterior.
- One of the shots should **focus on closets** and any indoor features.

Bathrooms & Closets

Bathroom Mirror & Counter



Closet Shelving



Bathrooms vary in size. A small half bathroom may only need 1 scan. A large master bathroom may need more.

As much as possible, make sure the camera **will not appear in the mirror's reflection in a snapshot**.

Remember to mark the mirror feature in the Capture app.

For closets, focus on the shelves and all the possible storage.

Backyard & Surroundings

From the Back Door



Looking Back at the House



Extra Features



Since you will be outside, **switch to 360° View mode** before you capture.

When possible, try to **place the camera in shade** so bright light doesn't wash out the photos.

Take one scan from the back door, looking out onto the yard.

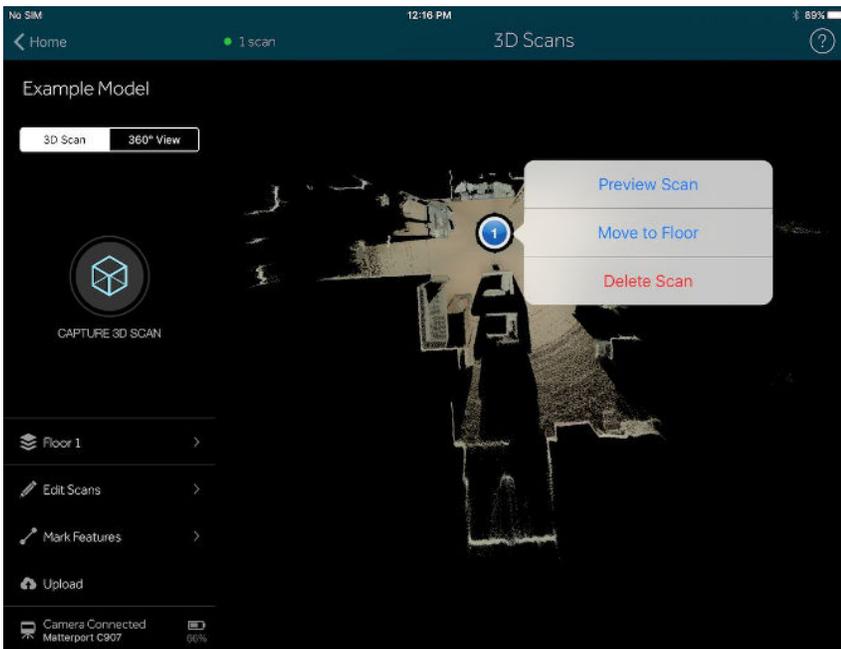
Take one scan from the end of the property, looking back onto the house.

Take **one extra scan for each notable feature** such as a pool, BBQ, basketball goal, fire pit, terrace/veranda, etc.

For garages, sheds, and detached guest houses, **take a single 360° View inside** to briefly show what's there. You can 3D Scan a path to a guest house and then scan inside it, but be careful when scanning outside. [Learn more](#).

If needed, you can also capture nearby landmarks, scenes, beaches, etc that are not part of the property itself, but that will be part of the 'experience'.

Preview the Scan



After you take a scan, preview it in the Capture app.

Look for undesirable things in the frame such as:

- Movement
- People
- Private Information

First **tap the scan number** in the minimap and then tap **Preview Scan**.

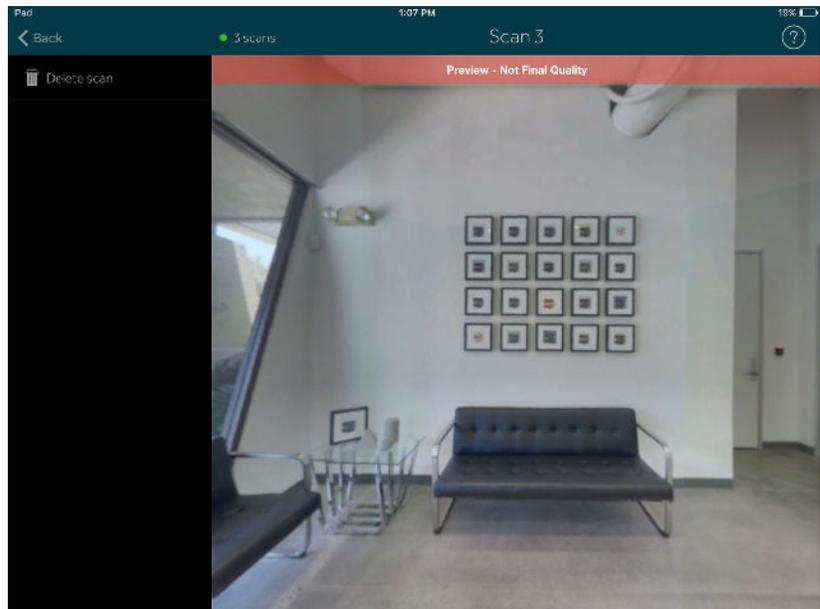
Tap and drag the screen to change your viewpoint.

Look left, right, above, and behind you.

You can also pinch to zoom.

This is only a preview and is not the final image quality.

After you upload your model, additional processing is done in the cloud to improve image quality.

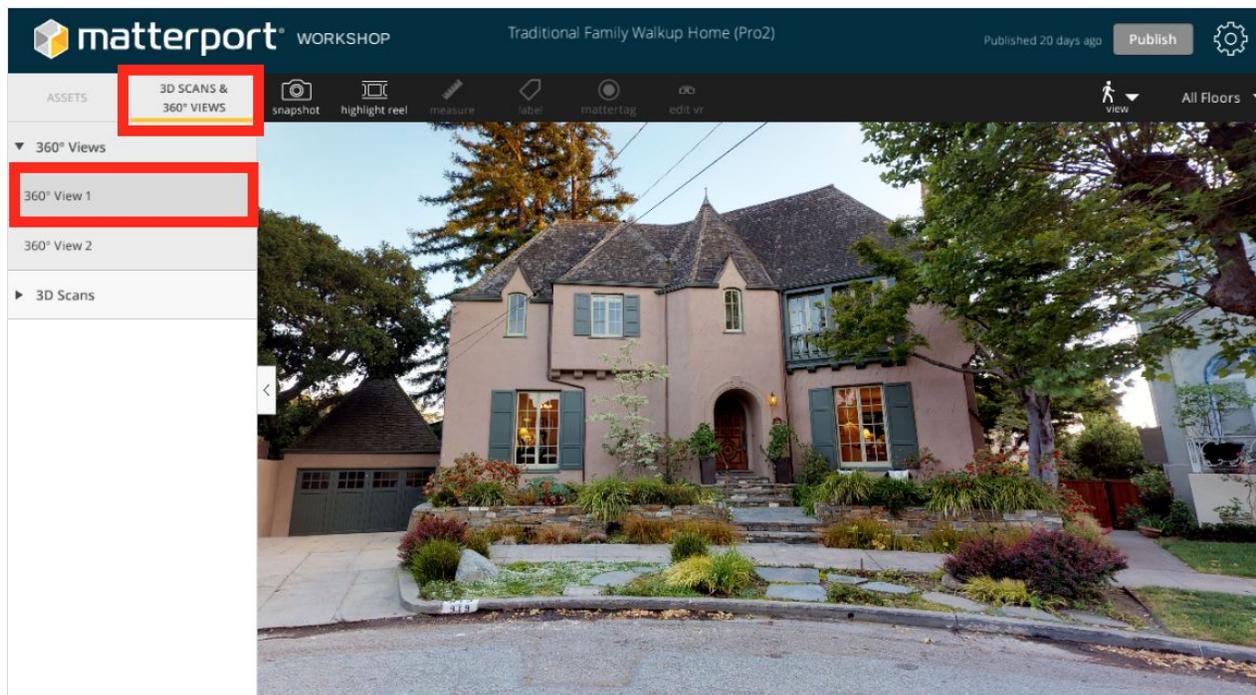


Post Processing in Workshop

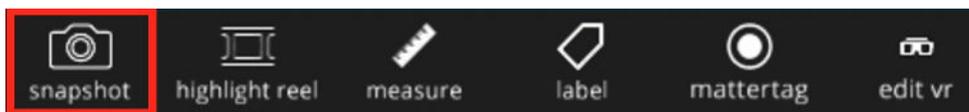
Taking Snapshots in Workshop

Once you've scanned for both 3D quality and for 2D Snapshots, then [upload the model](#) for processing. Once processing is complete, open the 3D Space in Workshop.

Navigate in the viewport to the scan position from which you want a snapshot. Remember, you can also go to a 360° View as well.



Click Snapshot in the Workshop toolbar.



Click and drag to adjust your view.

Zoom in and out to get the right angle. You can zoom out to 70% and zoom in to 300% (200% for spaces shot with the Pro camera). The zoom level determines the resolution of the snapshot, and therefore how big it can be in your printed materials. [Learn more.](#)

Click the camera button to take the snapshot.

Keep Vertical Lines Straight

Keeping vertical lines - as well as horizontal lines - straight and parallel is very important in 2D photography.

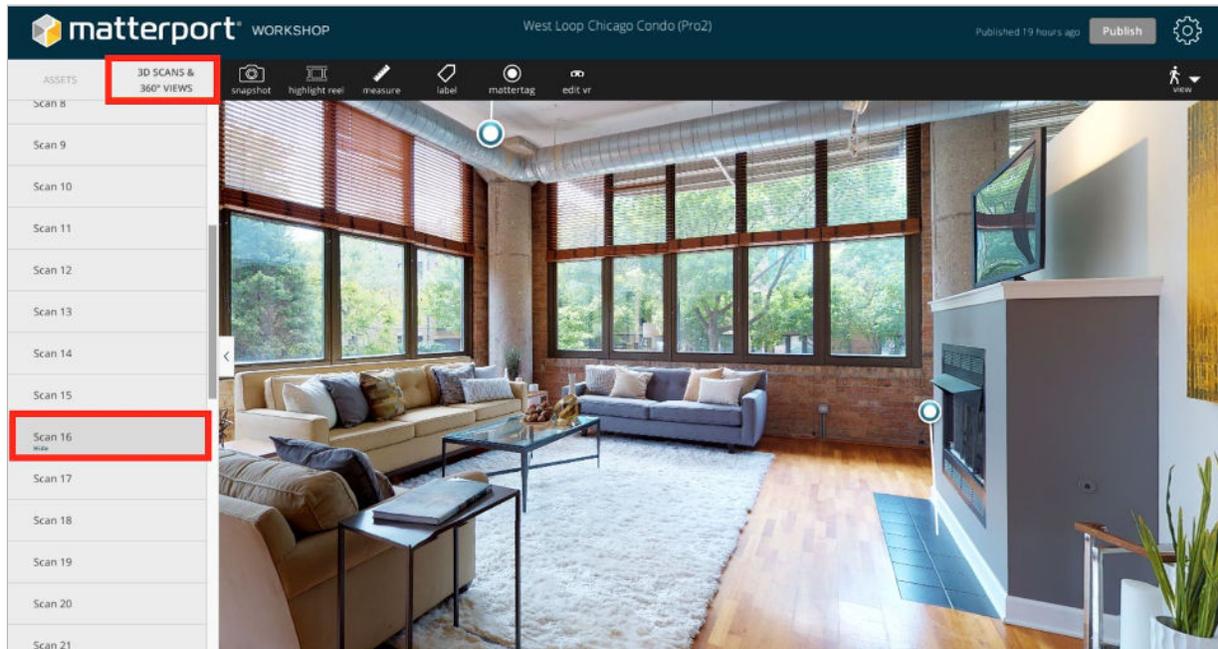
Lines that are not straight can cause the image to look tilted, skewed, or distorted, as if the image came from a barrel or fish bowl.



The most prominent vertical lines in a space are usually the **windows, columns, wall edges, and furniture edges**. Use these as guidelines to make sure the Snapshot looks good.

To keep vertical lines straight and parallel, we recommend having the Workshop view always leveled. To navigate, use the arrow keys to move left and right, rather than click and drag which could throw you off level. You can then take your Snapshot.

The easiest way to **return to level** is go to the 3D Scans and 360° Views menu and then double-click on a scan number.

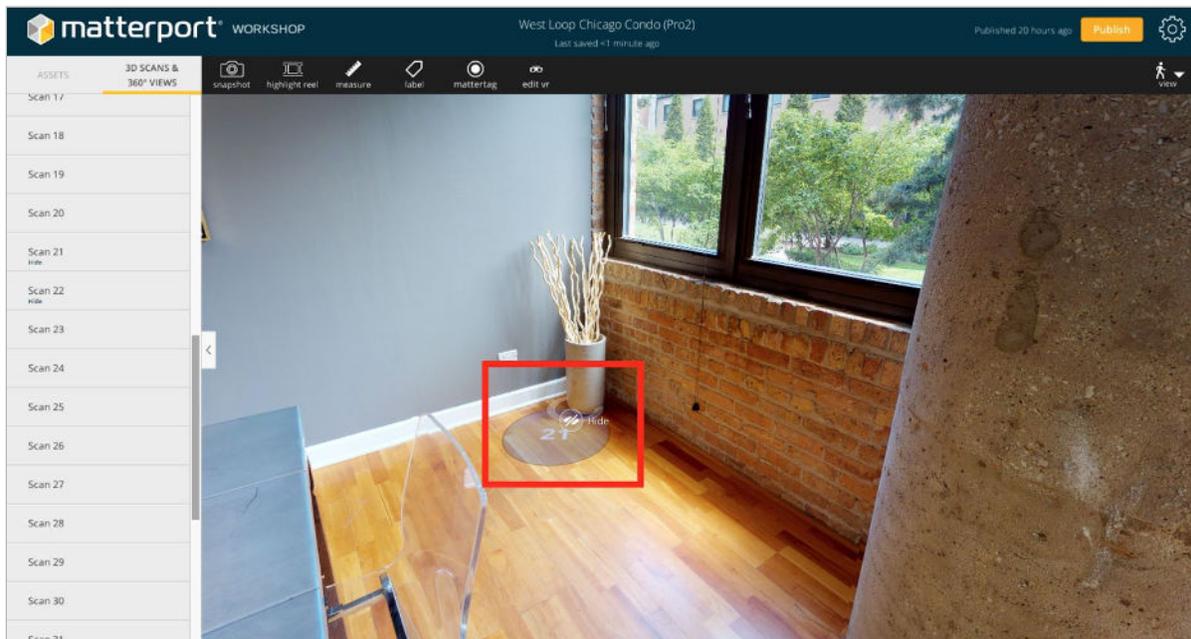


This will transport you to that scan position and return you to level.

Disable Scan Positions

The scans that you took for good 2D Snapshots are sometimes not appropriate for your virtual tour. This is because:

- They are In the corner, and can feel claustrophobic.
- They are at a lower height compared to eye-level for normal 3D scans. Height transitions in a virtual tour feel unnatural to the end-user.
- Too many scan positions in the virtual tour can make navigation difficult.



For all these reasons, you'll want to go back into Workshop and hide the scans that you specifically captured for 2D Snapshots. [Learn more](#).

Printing Information

You can download the Snapshots from either Workshop or Cloud. [Learn more](#).

If you use Matterport Cloud, remember to select "Maximum Pixels".

[Learn more about DPI and printing information](#)

Checklist

Best Practices

- Lower tripod to 3.5 ft (1 m)
- Preview a scan after you capture it
- Place camera in corners and doorways
- Avoid direct sunlight on the camera's lenses
- Place camera outside a mirror's reflection

Scanning		Editing
<input type="radio"/> Front corner (curb view)	2 scans	<input type="radio"/> Keep vertical lines straight
<input type="radio"/> Driveway or approach	1 scan	<input type="radio"/> Hide scan positions
<input type="radio"/> Sitting area, wide view	1 scan	<input type="radio"/> Check zoom level and thus resolution/DPI
<input type="radio"/> Three walls with seating	2 scans	<input type="radio"/> Indoor: 1/3 floor, 1/3 wall, 1/3 ceiling
<input type="radio"/> Dining table in center	1 scan	<input type="radio"/> Outdoor: 1/3 yard, 1/3 house, 1/3 sky
<input type="radio"/> Corner of dining table	2 scans	
<input type="radio"/> Appliances & features	2 scans	
<input type="radio"/> Eating area (wide view)	2 scans	
<input type="radio"/> Left foot of bed	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> Right foot of bed	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> Bathroom mirror & counter	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> Closet shelving	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> From the back door	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> Looking back at house	1 scan	
<input type="radio"/> Extra outdoor features	1/feature	